PALACES AND SENTRY-BOXES.

UNDER this title a weekly publication * has given insertion to some satirical remarks with respect to the paltry wooden boxes for the sentinels which have been stuck up at the new entrance gates to Buckingham Palace. "Was not a single architect," it is asked, "or other artist to be found capable of designing so very simple a matter as a mere sentry-box? Could not even the School of Design furnish an idea for something that would not positively disgrace the chief entrance to a royal palace?" It will, perhaps, be said that these wooden affairs, mean and ugly as they are, are but trivial blemishes, and that no one is obliged to notice them. True: yet why should there be any blemish of the kind, or a speck of meanness at all? More especially as such meanness is perfectly gratuitous, and amounts to a display of paltriness and deformity for the nonce, where there was opportunity for exhibiting something both novel and ornamental. Recesses for the sentinels might easily enough have been formed within the piers themselves, and greater importance and significance been given to the latter, in consequence.

We shall, no doubt, in due time behold our wonted ligneous contignations for sentinels figuring offensively as well as defensively at the new gates of the British Museum. What occasion there can be for sentinels there at all, when there is to be railing, or for railing if there are to be sentinels on guard, it is difficult to discover.—ZETA.

* "The Mirror of the Time."

ARTISTICAL AND OTHER INTELLIGENCE FROM ABROAD.

Dresden.—Art honouring Literature.—Baron Gutschmidt has erected here a house in the Venetian style, as a commemoration of the jubilee of Goethe's birthday. A memorial tablet graces the front, whereon the dates of the poet's nativity, &c., and the well-known verses—

"Knowest thou the land?"

are engraven. A fresco representing Mignon at the feet of the harpist, painted on gold ground, graces the façade of the house, whose numerous balconies, commanding the river, raise a recollection of the Lagune city. Baron Gutschmidt is also the builder of the fountain near the Post, a towering structure in the Gothic style. Having contributed so much to public contentment, the worthy baron lives in a little room, quite retired and economical.

Hamburg Art-Union.—The Kunst-Verein of this commercial city opened their eleventh annual exhibition on the 17th of April, in the great saloon of the *arcades* of the *Exchange*,—a most cheerful and cheering combining of the useful and beauteous. The catalogue comprises 158 subjects, amongst which are nine pieces of sculpture, all made by men of Hamburg. A. Calame, of Geneva, has exhibited some surprising Swiss scenery,—the top of the Jungfrau, with ice resplendent in the morning sun. By Louis Asher there is a cartoon from the play of *King Lear*.

The Great Fountains of Versailles.—The extensive work of repair on the aqueducts, the reservoirs, the pipes, and the basins of the *Parterre d'Eau* of the Parc of Versailles are nearly completed, having been begun nearly a year ago. The Municipality intend commemorating the completion of the works by a festivity. Ulterior work will be yet undertaken concerning the distribution of water from the machine of Marly.

Paris.—London Impulses.—Colonel Morin, director of the Conservatory of Art and Trades in Paris, is putting up a steam-engine in the adjacent church of the former convent, for imparting movement to the many engines and machines in the Museum, which, hitherto, could be but half studied and understood for want of motion. The restoration of the ancient refectory, built by Pierre of Montreuil, is now being completed in the *Musé*. It was he, also, who built the Sainte Chapelle in the Palais de Justice, in the reign of Saint Louis. The refectory will present all the ancient paintings, gildings, sculptures, and illuminations (*enluminures*). It is in these ornamented spaces, that the fine library of the Conservatoire will be placed. A new entrance also in the Rue St. Martin has been constructed, as well as a new building for the amphitheatre of the Schools of Design, Geometry, and Mathematics. In the great Museum an ornamented entrance has been made opposite the huge staircase, considered the finest in France. As the impulse for exhibition is at its highest acme, the *Garde-meuble* magasines, formerly the repositories for regal furniture, &c., have attracted notice. It seems that an inventory thereof had been printed in 1791, and many bronzes, pictures, &c., surrendered to the public collections; still, there are, at present, "preserved in coarse sacs, placed on shelves of equal coarseness, the insignia of Charlemagne; the crown, the sceptre, &c.!" Considering the rarity of art-objects of the Carlovingian period, these things ought to be placed elsewhere, according to the opinion of the French press.

Industrial Museum, Paris.—The London *impulse* extends rapidly and progressively. The Palais de la Bourse, although of huge dimensions, has become, of late, insufficient for its many usages, and the Chambre and the Tribunal du Commerce were much in want of room for their library, &c. All this will be now remedied by the occupation of the Hotel des Commissaires-priseurs, at the corner of the Rue Notre-Dame-des-Victoires, which the Chamber of Commerce and the Common Council of Paris have conjointly purchased for the sum of 400,000 francs. As the ground-floor of this building contains a great saloon, an Industrial Museum is to be formed, destined to receive collections of all foreign produce, which would thus become an object of study in the most central part of Paris.

NOTES IN THE PROVINCES.

WROXHAM Church has recently been repaired and restored to some extent. Four of the old wooden framed windows have been replaced in stone, at the cost of Mr. E. W. Trafford, who has also filled the tracery of the large west window in the tower with painted glass by Wailes. Mr. Blake Humfrey, Mr. W. Burroughes and others have also contributed ornamental and useful works.——The Roman Catholic Chapel at Witham, lately founded, is from a design by Mr. D. C. Nicholls, of York-terrace, Camberwell-road, in the pointed Gothic style. It is to consist of a nave and chancel, the former 55 feet in the clear by 22 feet, with a height of 30 feet 10 inches to the roof in the centre; and the chancel 15 by 14. The main entrance will have a porch of carved stone. The chapel will accommodate 200, and the cost will be 665*l*.——The sea had lately encroached so much on the high road from Worthing to Lancing, on the Sussex coast, that the road has become almost impassable, and it has been necessary to change the route of the mail.——A new church, to be dedicated to St. Stephen, was founded on Tuesday in last week, at Tunbridge. It is to be in the early English style, with an open roof, and consist of a nave, chancel, south aisle, and tower at south-east corner; a north aisle being intended to be erected at a future time. The nave will be 72 feet by 24 feet, and the south aisle 82 feet 6 inches, by 15 feet 9 inches; the tower 20 feet square at the base, with organ loft and spire, the extreme height of which will be 128 feet. The walls will be built with rag stone, lined internally with dressed facings of sandstone from Southborough quarry. The building will stand due east and west. Mr. Ewan Christian, of Bloomsbury-square, is the architect, and Mr. John Vincent, of London, clerk of works. The contract for the covering in of the roof has been taken by Mr. George Punnett, of Tunbridge, for 2,037*l*. 8s. 5d., but the whole cost of the building, when completed, is estimated at 3,500*l*. The amount contributed before the laying of the foundation-stone was 2,168*l*. 9s. The ground for the site, one acre of land, has been given by the Rev. C. Hardinge, with an additional half an acre adjoining for the erection of a parsonage house, as soon as the funds will admit of it.——It is now said that the tower of Sherborne Church is so unsafe that great apprehension is entertained that it may give way at once. The church has therefore been closed. A sum of 600*l*. is said to be requisite for extra scaffolding on this account. At a recent vestry it had been announced, that for the repair of the central part of the tower, and the whole of the arches of the tower and nave, Mr. Staples was willing to make a contract for 3,500*l*., which sum has since been realised, but as the original estimate for repair of the church has mounted from 5,000*l*. up to nearly 20,000*l*., there is some fear of the work not being finished very soon. The committee, it is said, wish to appropriate a sum of 500*l*. set apart for external repairs towards the extra scaffolding said to be necessary.——A few weeks since the directors of the Bristol Athenæum advertised for plans and estimates for a new building intended to be erected for the uses of the Athenæum: we hear that upwards of twenty architects have forwarded competition designs, which are now exhibiting in the Athenæum Reading-room, Corn-street. The prizes to be awarded are, 20*l*. for the best design, 10*l*. for the second, and 5*l*. for the third best design. There is also exhibited a wood model for an athenæum.——A school for children of both sexes is in progress of erection at Kidderminster. The building is from an ornamental design of old English character, by Mr. Christian, but it is not intended to carry out the design in its entirety at present—the portion drawn for an infant school being still untouched. The building is of brick, with stone dressings, and a high pointed roof, surmounted by a wooden cupola. The two school rooms are each 40 feet by 18 feet, and are separated by a moveable partition. As a part of the style, and for the purpose of obtaining a great height for the school rooms, the roof will be an open one, and the principal timbers exposed.——The foundation stone of St. George's Church, Darlaston, was laid on Wednesday week. It will be of Brewood-stone, in the early English style of architecture, and consist of a nave 69 feet by 22 feet, north and south aisles, 69 feet by 13 feet each; chancel, 18 feet by 17 feet; a robing-room on the north side of the chancel, a south porch and a tower and spire at the north-west angle. The church will contain accommodation for 473 adults, 321 of which will be free sittings, and there will be 200 for children. The estimated cost of the whole, including a fence wall round the church-yard, is about 3,000*l*. The funds for the erection were obtained by grants from the Lichfield Diocesan Church Building Society, The Incorporated Society for Building Churches, Her Majesty's Church Building Commissioners, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, the late Sir R. Peel's Fund, the Memorial Fund of the late Sir R. Peel, and a remainder through private subscriptions. Messrs. Johnson and Son, of Lichfield, are the architects, and Messrs. Higham, of Wolverhampton, the builders.——The guardians of the Leicester union have accepted a tender to light the workhouse with gas for 10 years, at 2s. 9d. per 1,000 cubic feet.——The number of visitors at the new Corporation Baths, in Kent Street, Birmingham, continues to increase daily. Last week it was stated that there had been 3,680 up to the afternoon of the fifth day; on the twelfth day the total amounted to 10,352, arising from each class as follows;—swimming baths, 5,374; first class mens' warm baths, 940; second class mens' warm baths, 618; second class cold baths, 173; first class cold baths, 73; female department, 274. During the three hours they were open on Sunday morning, no fewer than 874 bathers paid for admission. The total receipts had reached 135*l*.——The parsonage to the newly-built Christchurch, Friesland, Saddleworth (Mr. George Shaw, architect), has just been completed, together with schools and masters' house in same style—that of Edward II.——Several farmers at Croston have lately bored artesian wells, and they find water in abundance at the depth of 68 feet. About nine feet below the upper surface is clay or marl; and after the boring is complete, an

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